



**GRANT RECIPIENT**  
TOWN OF DUNE ACRES

**YEAR**  
2009

**COUNTY**  
PORTER

**CATEGORY**  
LOW COST CONSTRUCTION

**GRANT AWARD**  
\$15,000

**LOCAL SHARE**  
\$15,000



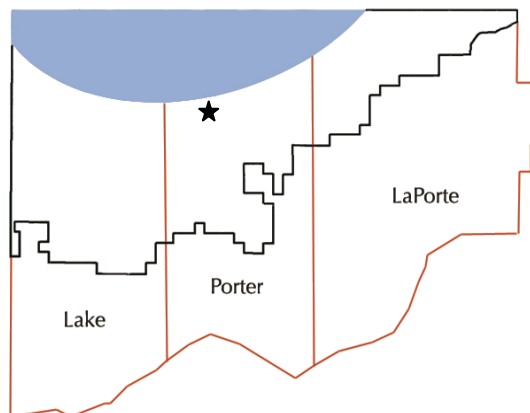
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## Dune Acres: Cowles Bog Restoration

The Cowles Bog Wetland Complex within Great Marsh is an ecological rarity in the Indiana Dunes with extensive native biodiversity and a unique ecological history. Although the natural area has its positive attributes, the hybrid cattail has threatened the health of the ecology including the endangerment of various native plant and animal species.

Two acres of hybrid cattails have been cut and managed with herbaceous invasive treatments by The Nature Conservancy, thus reducing their presence by approximately 80%. The reduction of tree and shrub species has also been reduced to 70% except for the following species: winterberry, yellow birch, and poison sumac. The native population of plants and animals has been environmentally managed by these practices and the ecology of Cowles Bog Wetland Complex will continue to restore itself to its natural state.



**RESULT:** Eighty percent of hybrid cattails eradicated as well as seventy percent of shrubs and trees excluding poison sumac, yellow birch, and winterberry.